

Aba-A woollen stuff manufactured in Turkey.

Abaca-Abaka

The native name of the plant *Musa Textilis* which produces manila or Philippine Island's hemp. Manila hemp is remarkable for its strength and durability, and is invaluable for the manufacture of the best kinds of hawsers and towing cables for ships' use.

Abaca fiber-Manila hemp obtained from the leaf sheath of ***Musa textilis***, a variety of plantain, is quite different from hemp properly so-called, which is the bast fiber from the bark of ***Cannabis sativa***. The better grades are especially valuable for making ships' cables or for transmission ropes where resistance to sea-water or great strength and flexibility are required. ***Musa sapientum*** or the common banana or plantain, also supplies the fiber.

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Abacatuia-In ichthyology, an obsolete name of the zeus vomer, a fish belonging to the thoracic order of Linnaeus. See **Zeus** elsewhere in this text.

Abacay-An obsolete name given of a species of psittacus, or parrot. See **Psittacus** elsewhere in this text.

Abach mineral waters-A hydrosulfuretted saline spring not far from Ratisbon, or Regensburg, in Bavaria. See also **Mineral waters** elsewhere in this text.

Abaciscus-See **Abacus**.

Abaco-A term, among ancient writers, for arithmetic.

Abactus-An obsolete term, among physicians, for a miscarriage procured by art.

Abactus venter-Abortion produced by art.

Abaculus-A tile used in making ornamental patterns in mosaic pavements. It is usually made of marble, glass, porcelain, or terra cotta, of various colors.

Abaku nuts-See **Bassia**.

Abalak-A formaldehyde-phenol resin used in varnishes.

Abalone-The name given in California to various species of the edible mollusk ***Haliotis***. The shell of the animal yields mother of pearl and is used in button making and inlaying.

Abalyn-Methyl esters of abietic acid. A nonsolvent ingredient in nitrocellulose lacquers.

Abamectin-Avernectin. A natural insecticide obtained from streptomyces avermitilis. On the toxicity scale in humans, it possesses very little toxicity. It possesses a lethal dose of about 2000 mg/kg body weight or about 2 grams per each kilogram body weight.

Abanet-A girdle shaped bandage.

Abanga-Name given by the inhabitants of St. Thomas to the fruit of a palm tree, the seeds or fruit of which they consider useful in diseases of the chest, in the dose of three or four fruit or seeds, two or three times a day.

Abano, Pietro D'-He was also known as Petrus de Apono or Aponensis, a distinguished physician and philosopher, was born at the Italian town from which he takes his name in 1250, or, according to others, in 1246. After visiting the east to acquire the Greek language he went to study at Paris, where he became a doctor of medicine and philosophy. In Padua, to which he returned when his studies was completed, he speedily gained a great reputation as a physician, and availed himself it to gratify his avarice by refusing to visit patients except for an exorbitant fee. Perhaps this as well as his meddling in astrology caused the charge to be brought against him of practicing magic, the particular accusations being that he brought back into his purse, by the aid of the devil, all the money he paid away, and that he possessed the philosopher's stone. He was twice brought to trial by the Inquisition; on the first occasion he was acquitted, and he died (1316) before the second trial was completed. He was found guilty, however, and his body was ordered exhumed and burned; but a friend had secretly removed it, and Inquisition had, therefore, to content itself with the public proclamation of its sentence and the burning of Abano in effigy. In his writings he expounds and advocates the medical and philosophical systems of Averrhoes and other Arabian writers. His best known works are Conciliator differentiarum quae inter philosophos et medicos versantur (Mantua, 1472, Venice, 1476), and De Venenis eorumque remediis (1472), of which French translation was published in Lyons in 1593.

Abanone-Magnesium phospho-tartrate.

Aba-odo-An African term for a mixture of rubber latices, probably from those from Funtumia elastica and ficus vogelii.

Abarnahas-Magnesia, magnesium hydroxide, magnesium oxide.

Abaptiston-Abaptista

Abaptistum-Abaptista

Abaremo-Temo-A Brazilian tree, which grows in the mountains, and appears to be a mimosa. Piso relates that the decoction of its bark, which is bitter and astringent, was applied to ulcers of a bad character.

Abarnahas-Magnesia

Abasin-Acetyl adalin, acecarbromal. A trade name for a sedative acetyl-alpha-bromo-alpha-ethylbutyryl carbamide.

Abassi cotton-White Egyptian cotton.

Abatia-The leaves of Abatia rugosa, used as a black dye.

Abatis-A type of intrenchment, and one of the oldest. It consists of trees felled, (abatu) and laid side by side in front of the fortification, with the branches directed toward the enemy, the softer twigs being cut off. It thus forms a breastwork to fire over, and is very useful in field works and in the outworks of regular fortifications for retarding the enemy's advance. The larger ends of the branches are secured to the ground by forked pickets.

Abattoir-A slaughterhouse.

Abdalavi-The Egyptian melon.

Abel Tree-A name of the white poplar.

Abhal-An East India fruit obtained from a species of cypress.